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FORM NO. 237 Use previous editions

MEMORANDUM FOR: SR/RR

VIA:

SR/CI/K

SUBJECT:

Arrests in the UkSSR

1. AECASSOWARY/2 has just learned from Yaroslav HAYVAS, a member of the OUN/Melnick organization, the following. HAYVAS claims the information was received in letters from the Ukraine and sent to members of their organization. The information came in three parts in separate letters to three individuals.

- a. Approximately 20-40 individuals in the Ukraine were incarcerated in August 1965, primarily in Kiev, Lvov and Volhynia. The arrests took place following a gathering of students and young writers which took place in the summer of 1965 in ZVENY-HORODKA near Kiev. It is believed the group was betrayed to the KGB by one of the participants who reported all conversations and discussions. Reportedly, an undetermined number of the individuals who were in some way connected with the group which met in ZVENYHORODKA were shot in Volkynia and Lvov.
- b. Among those imprisoned were Ivan SVITLYCHNY of Kiev, a writer and literary critic, 37 years of age. (C/O note: SVITLYCHNY's writings have been absent from Soviet publications for some time now. It was feared by the AECASSOWARIES that he was in some trouble.) The main figure involved in the ZVENY-HORODKA affair appears to be fnu KOSIV who was arrested along with SVITLYCHNY. HAYVAS is inclined to consider KOSIV as the agent-provocateur but he claims to have no other information about KOSIV. (C/O note: A Source of the AECASSOWARIES probably reliable reported in the past that one KOSIV believed to be Mykhailo was one of the leaders of UNAS Ukrainska Natsional'na Spilka Ukrainian National Union in Lvov.)

- c. Among those slated for incarceration was Ivan DZIUBA, a writer, about 35 years of age, but he was allowed to remain free because of his acute pleurisy. (C/O note: DZIUBA has openly expressed nationalist sentiments, examples of which are on file in SR/CA. He reportedly is openly defiant of the authorities as he feels he doesn't have long to live anyway because of his poor state of health.)
- d. There were strong pressures against L4na KOSTENKO, one of the best younger female writers in the Ukraine today, about 34 years of age. (Note: KOSTENKO reportedly recently withdrew two of her collections of poetry from the publisher because she refused to agree with alterations suggested by the censors. One collection was brought out to the West by na AECASSOWARY source.) KOSTENKO, according to an AECASSOWARY source, was forced to reject and return a parcel sent to her by the AECASSOWARY source.
- e. S. KARAFFA-KORBUT was also involved in the above-mentioned arrests but released because of her reputation as a great artist (painter).
- 2. The essence of the information about the arrests was received by Dr. W. FEDORONCHUK, head of the Ukrainian desk of the Italian Radio. FEDORONCHUK reportedly is setting up a special section of the Ukrainian desk, to be called FREE THOUGHT, which is to serve as a propaganda and communications channel for the OUN/Melnick group with the Ukrainian SSR.
- 3. In the opinion of HAYVAS, Ivan KOLASKA of Toronto (reportedly a member of the CP) is associated with the events in the Ukraine of last August. KOLASKA was introduced to various Melnick people in Canada by fnu FEDYK and fnu MOTA who since have accused each other of being KGB agents. They reportedly have been maintaining contact with Oleg M. KHOMENKO, Ivan F. SHPEDKO and fnu ROMANIUK of the Soviet Embassy in Canada. They reportedly also maintain contacts with Petro KRAVCHUK and fnu MASIYEVICH, both leading Progressives in Canada, with Mykola HNATIV of Winnipeg and Ivan YAREMKO of Chicago.